

JFK Assassination System
Identification Form

Date: 6/15/201

Agency Information

AGENCY : FBI
RECORD NUMBER : 124-10219-10447

RECORD SERIES : HQ

AGENCY FILE NUMBER : 100-30067-64

Released under the John
F. Kennedy
Assassination Records
Collection Act of 1992
(44 USC 2107 Note).
Case#:NW 53130 Date:
05-31-2017

Document Information

ORIGINATOR : FBI
FROM : DIVERS, NEIL P.
TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

TITLE :

DATE : 07/08/1955
PAGES : 10

SUBJECTS :

JOP, CP MEMBER, EMP, RES, TRA, SECURITY INDEX

DOCUMENT TYPE : PAPER, TEXTUAL DOCUMENT
CLASSIFICATION : Secret
RESTRICTIONS : 1B; 1C; 4
CURRENT STATUS : Redact
DATE OF LAST REVIEW : 02/24/1998

OPENING CRITERIA : INDEFINITE

COMMENTS : INC MEMO

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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-30067)
 FROM : SAC, New York (100-88368)

SUBJECT: JOHN PITTMAN
IS-C

DATE: 7/8/55

~~SECRET~~Card U.T.D.
8-8-55-77

Re SAC letter 55-30 dated 4/12/55.

Succinct Resume of Case

CSSF 2140-S*, who is in a position to furnish reliable information, advised on 4/8/55 that JOHN (PITTMAN) had recently corresponded with WILLIAM SCHNEIDERMAN, Chairman of CP District 13. PITTMAN indicated that he would be leaving by automobile for the West Coast by 8/1/55 and brought up the matter of financial assistance to facilitate the change.

CSSF 2140-S* advised on 3/3/55 that JOHN PITTMAN would take over as editor of the "Daily People's World" when the present editor, a convicted Smith Act subject, goes to jail.

(S) NY 779-S* who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on 3/2/55 that JOHN PITTMAN, who is temporarily "Daily Worker" city editor, was scheduled in the near future for permanent assignment on California on the staff of the "Daily People's World".

The "Daily Worker" of 2/23/55, page 1, column 4, reflected that the editorial board of the "Daily Worker" on 2/2/55 announced that JOHN PITTMAN is taking over the duties of "Daily Worker" news editor after serving as foreign editor for several years. The "Daily Worker" is an east coast Communist daily newspaper and the "Daily People's World" is a west coast Communist daily newspaper.

(S) NY 779-S* advised on 1/22/55 that JOHN PITTMAN was reportedly in ascendancy within the leadership of the CP and had been meeting with leaders of the CP in recent months.

Former ND 610-S* (and NY 559-S*), who have furnished reliable information in the past, advised on 12/28/50 and 1/12/51 respectively that PITTMAN was elected to the Press Committee at the national convention of the CP, USA which was held on 12/28/50 at NYC.

PITTMAN registered in 1938 and 1939 with the Registrar of Voters, San Francisco, California, as affiliated

50 AUG 22 1955

~~SECRET~~

RECORDED - 63

RM cc to [unclear]
6-8-55
ENCL 3
NPD:CB

100-30067-64
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JUL 11 1955

CLASSIFIED BY 52685-1
DECLASSIFY ON: 25X

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK**

CONFIDENTIAL

REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK	DATE WHEN MADE 7/8/55	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 3/7, 24; 4/18, 22; 5/3, 6; 6/16, 17, 24/55	REPORT MADE BY NEIL P. DIVERS cb
TITLE JOHN PITTMAN	ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.		CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: JOHN PITTMAN resides at 628 W. 151st St., NYC, and is news editor of the "Daily Worker". Informant, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised in March 1955, that PITTMAN was scheduled in the near future for permanent assignment on the staff of the "Daily People's World" in California. Informant, who is in a position to furnish accurate information, advised in April 1955, that PITTMAN planned to return to the West Coast on or about August 1, 1955. PITTMAN conducted a 12-day tour of mid-Western cities in support of the subscription drive of the "Daily Worker" and "The Worker". PITTMAN is listed in the 1955 Spring and Winter catalogs of the Jefferson School of Social Science, NYC, as an instructor.

- P* -

DETAILS:
 AGENCY *State, Lab* BACKGROUND
 REC'D *8-19-55*
 DATE FORW. *PP*
 HOW FORW. *JPTM - MSS*

10-4-55
 Classified by *SP8 - Michael Soder*
 Declassify on: *QADR* *(S)* *Rat*

T-1, who was in a position to furnish accurate information, advised on June 16, 1955, that JOHN PITTMAN resides at 628 West 151st Street, New York City.

On April 1, 1955, T-2, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised that JOHN PITTMAN of the "Daily Worker" is still planning to go to the West Coast but that the time is not yet set.

T-3, who is in a position to furnish reliable information, advised on April 8, 1955, that JOHN PITTMAN and his

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>JFK</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	ENCLOSURE DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
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NY 100-88368

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

INFORMANTS

Identity of Source	Date of Activity and/or Description of Information	Date Received	Agent to Whom Furnished	File # Where Located
T-1 Pretext telephone call to the 628 W. 151st St. Corp Tel. AUDUBON 3-4428	Residence	6/16/55	SA NEIL P. DIVERS	Instant Report
T-2 NY 779-S*	4/1/55	4/1/55		
	2/21/55	2/21/55		
	3/2/55	3/2/55		
T-3 CSSF 2140-S*	4/8/55	4/8/55		
T-4 SL 944-S	PITTMAN, speaker on 2/3/55 at St. Louis	2/10/55	SA WALTER A. St. Louis HILGENDORF	134-23-A-75
T-5 CG 5972-S	Speaker at meeting of Illinois Committee for Freedom of Press, 2/4/55 at Chicago, Illinois	2/17/55	SA GROVER C. Chicago THOMPSON	134-257-A-50
T-6 CG 5890-S	Speaker at meeting 2/4/55, Hotel Sutherland, Chicago, Illinois	2/7/55	SA JOHN E. Chicago KEATING	134-190-A-106

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

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ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE (CONT'D)

INFORMANTS (CONT'D)

Identity of Source	Date of Activity and/or Description of Information	Date Received	Agent to Whom Furnished	File # Where Located
T-7 MI 217-S	Speaker at Wisconsin CRC meeting, 2/7/55, Milwaukee, Wisconsin	2/17/55	SA WALTER L. ROETHKE	Milwaukee 134-123-A-61
T-8 MP 2288-S	Speaker at meeting of Minnesota Committee for Freedom of Press, 2/9/55 Minneapolis, Minnesota	2/15/55	SA MICHAEL J. FOX	100-88368-388
T-9 DE 515-PSI	Speaker at meeting to celebrate Negro History Week 2/11/55, Detroit, Michigan	2/16/55	SA JOHN L. SHELBURNE	Detroit 134-265R-25
T-10 DE 467-S	Speech 2/11/55 Detroit, Michigan	2/21/55	SA ROBERT A. MOFFATT	Detroit 134-184R-182

Careful consideration has been given to each source concealed and T symbols were utilized in the report only in those instances where the identity of the sources must be concealed.

MISCELLANEOUS

The following Chicago informants also attended the 2/4/55 meeting at the Hotel Sutherland, Chicago, Illinois, and furnished substantially the same information as reflected by T-5 and T-6 in this report; however, for reasons of security, they are omitted from the details:

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE (CONT'D)

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ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE (CONT'D)

MISCELLANEOUS (CONT'D)

CG 5042-S
CG 5609-S
CG 5735-S
CG 5826-S
CG 5871-S
CG 5885-S
CG 5942-S
CG 5956-S
CG 5969-S
CG 5981-S
CG 5982-S

JOHN PITTMAN is included on the Security Index and data appearing on his Security Index card is current.

LEADS

NEW YORK

At New York, New York

Will follow subject's activities and be alert for any information regarding his travel to the West Coast.

SAN FRANCISCO (INFORMATION)

One copy of this report is being furnished the San Francisco Office inasmuch as PITTMAN is expected to be assigned to the staff of the "Daily People's World" in the near future.

REFERENCE Report of SA ROBERT E. JENKINS, 12/30/54, New York.

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE (CONT'D)

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~~SECRET~~